

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DR. ANDREW MESSENGER, A TRUE FRIEND OF LIBERTY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a friend and patriot, Dr. Andrew L. Messenger, of Riverdale, Michigan.

As a physician, I know Dr. Messenger is the type of doctor all of us would want to have to take care of us. He is capable, loves his work, genuinely cares about his patients, and is always available if someone needs him. In fact, he loves being a doctor so much that he did not retire until this past year at age 83.

Every day he would wake up early to be at the office by 6:45 a.m. He knew that many of his working patients preferred to come in early so he made himself available. Dr. Messenger felt that if he as a doctor was unavailable, he was worthless.

Dr. Messenger also applied this principle to being a father. Leaving the house early in the morning allowed him to spend time with his family in the evenings. Most nights and weekends were spent hunting, fishing, playing at the local playground, and attending athletic events with his six children.

When Dr. Messenger returned home from work, the whole family would sit around the dinner table and discuss personal and newsworthy events of the day. After dinner was done and homework finished, Dr. Messenger would take the kids out to play. Baseball and going to the park were two of the Messenger family's favorite after dinner activities.

His personal involvement in the lives of his children paid off. He has six successful children, three of whom are doctors.

Dr. Messenger lives by the principals of honesty, hard work, and caring for his fellow man, and took great care to instill these same principles into his children.

After raising a family and running a respected practice, Dr. Messenger continues to make a difference not only in his local community and across the United States through his generous support of the Leadership Institute.

When most men embrace the rewards retirement offers, Dr. Messenger pushes on to make a difference in the lives of his countrymen. Dr. Messenger's support of the Leadership Institute gives young people and working professionals the practical tools necessary to advance liberty and protect freedom. Too often freedom has few friends on our college campuses, in our state houses, and in our capitol. Dr. Messenger is providing everyday citizens with the resources necessary to defend the dream of limited government George Washington and the rest of our founding fathers created when they wrote our constitution.

Clearly, Dr. Messenger has not only contributed to society by raising six successful children, he has made provisions for future gen-

erations through investing in the long-term mission of the Leadership Institute.

Thank you, Dr. Messenger, for investing in the lives of the future leaders of this country through your faithful and generous support of the Leadership Institute.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House on Tuesday, April 5th due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

H. Res. 108: Commemorating the life of the late Zurab Zhvania, Prime Minister of Georgia, "yea."

H. Res. 120: Commending the outstanding efforts by members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development in response to the earthquake and tsunami of December 26, 2004, "yea."

H. Con. Res. 34: Honoring the life and contributions of Yogi Bhaajan, a leader of Sikhs, and expressing condolences to the Sikh community on his passing, "yea."

COMMENTING ON THE ONGOING DISPUTE BETWEEN THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC OF GREECE AND THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, the former nation of Yugoslavia dissolved into a number of independent nation-states, including the Republic of Macedonia. However, international recognition of Macedonia's independence from Yugoslavia was significantly delayed in large part by Greece's objection to the new state's use of what it considered to be a Hellenic name and symbols.

Greece even went so far as to impose a trade blockade against Macedonia, citing unfounded concerns of potential border destabilization within the region and fears of Macedonian territorial expansion. The Greek government even persuaded the United Nations Security Council to pass United Nations Security Council Resolution 845 in 1993, which proclaimed that for all intents and purposes the Republic of Macedonia would be referred to as the "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia," pending the outcome of negotiations between Greece and Macedonia on a permanent name.

Greece finally lifted its trade blockade against Macedonia in 1995, and the two coun-

tries have since agreed to normalize relations. Although inexplicable, even after 12 long years of discussion and debate between the representatives of Greece and Macedonia, and a host of international mediators, differences over Macedonia's official name remain.

Recently, last November, the United States joined 108 other nations in officially recognizing the constitutional name of the Republic of Macedonia. America's official recognition of the Republic of Macedonia should be seen as a clear message to both sides that this dispute over the name has simply gone on too long.

A new, accelerated round of discussions between officials from Greece and Macedonia—mediated by United States diplomat and United Nations mediator Matthew Nimitz—is scheduled to start before the end of April. For the good of bilateral relations, as well as broader regional stability, I urge both sides, Greek and Macedonian, to work together in a spirit of friendship and open-mindedness with UN envoy Matthew Nimitz, and ultimately conclude this emotionally-embroiled dispute in a mutually acceptable, desirable, and expedient way.

Mr. Speaker, Greece and Macedonia have more to gain by settling this dispute and working together to bring the people and governments of the region into the larger community of nations than they do by continuing this destabilizing dispute. I hope that both sides will seize this opportunity to do the right thing at the April talks and work together to bring this matter to a peaceful conclusion.

RECOGNIZING BAY CITY UNIFICATION ANNIVERSARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to rise before you today, and to ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the unification of Bay City, Michigan. This momentous occasion will be marked by a series of events to take place on Sunday, April 10, 2005.

In 1857, a village, made up of land once used as a campground for the Chippewa Indians, was formed east of the Saginaw River. In 1865, this village, known as Bay City, was formally incorporated as a city. The years that followed saw other villages established in the area, including several to the west of the river. In 1877, three of these communities—Banks, Salzburg, and Wenona, consolidated and formed West Bay City. The two communities coexisted and thrived with separate mayors, city councils, police and fire departments, schools, public utilities, and city services, until a campaign to unite the two began, with the hopes that a larger city would increase revenue and promote expansion.

After several consolidation referenda, as well as actions on the part of the Michigan

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